

Message Text

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----- 038110
R 300617Z NOV 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: OGEN, JA

SUBJECT: OPRED - PROPOSAL TO ADD AN ASSISTANT
AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE POSITION AT TOKYO

1. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WISHES TO ESTABLISH AN
ADDITIONAL ASSISTANT AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE (FORESTRY
SPECIALIST) POSITION IN TOKYO. PERTINENT PORTIONS OF A
LETTER FROM AGRICULTURE FOLLOW:

QUOTE IN RECENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE FOREIGN
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE (FAS) AND THE FOREST SERVICE (FS),
AGREEMENT WAS REACHED THAT A FORESTRY OFFICER SERVING ON
THE AGRICULTURAL STAFF AT THE EMBASSY AS AN ASSISTANT
AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE WITH SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR
FORESTRY AND WOOD PRODUCTS TRADE WOULD BE EXTREMELY USEFUL
BOTH FOR FS AND FAS AND USDA.

U.S. TOTAL EXPORTS UNDER THE BRUSSELS TARIFF NEGOTIATION
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(BTN) 24 WERE 1.3 BILLION DOLS, 824 MILLION DOLS FOR

"WOOD IN THE ROUGH" OF WHICH 711 BILLION DOLS WORTH WENT TO JAPAN. JAPAN'S IMPORT DATA INDICATES 3.4 MILLION DOLS EQUIVALENT OF BTN 24 WAS IMPORTED FROM ALL SOURCES DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1973. OF THIS TOTAL, 1.1 BILLION DOLS CAME FROM THE U.S. (CUSTOMS CLEARANCE BASIS). WOOD IN THE

ROUGH IMPORTS (242) WERE 3.0 BILLION DOLS WITH 1.0 BILLION DOLS OR ONE-THIRD COMING FROM THE U.S.

THE MAGNITUDE OF TRADE, THE CONTINUING NEED FOR INTELLIGENCE, THE POSITION OF THE FOREST SERVICE AS A MAJOR AGENCY IN BOTH USDA AND THE JAPANESE MAF (MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY), AND THE NEED FOR ON-THE-SPOT EXPERTISE IN FORESTRY MATTERS JUSTIFY THE ADDITION OF A FORESTRY SPECIALIST TO OUR TOKYO STAFF. UNQUOTE

2. ACCORDING TO DEPARTMENT'S RECORDS APPROVAL OF REQUEST WOULD RAISE AUTHORIZED LEVEL FOR FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE IN TOKYO TO SEVEN U.S. POSITIONS.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF OF MISSION ON THIS PROPOSAL, INCLUDING ANY IMPACT ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT CAPABILITY OF THE EMBASSY. INGERSOLL

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